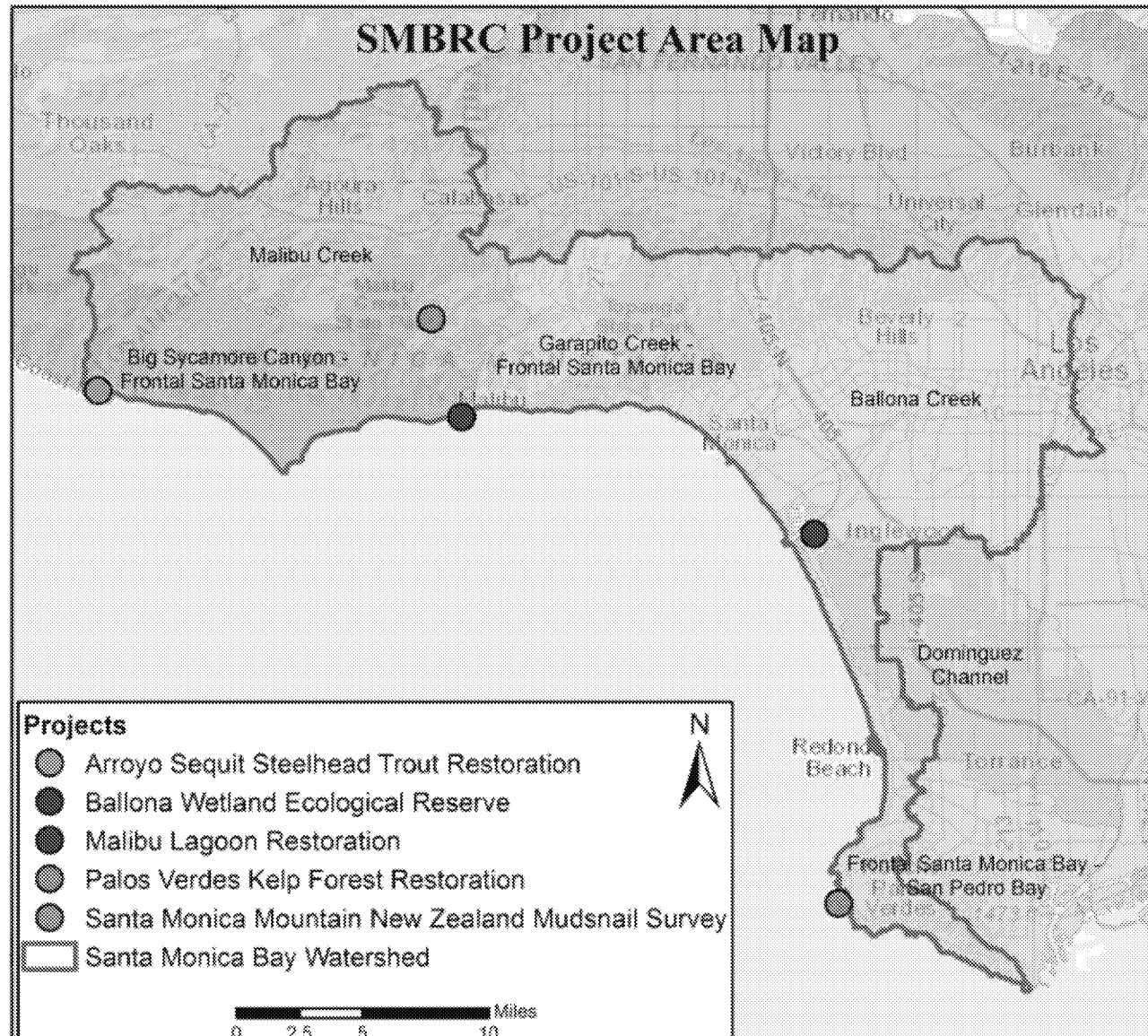


# Draft agenda- SMBNEP Overview (5.30.2019)

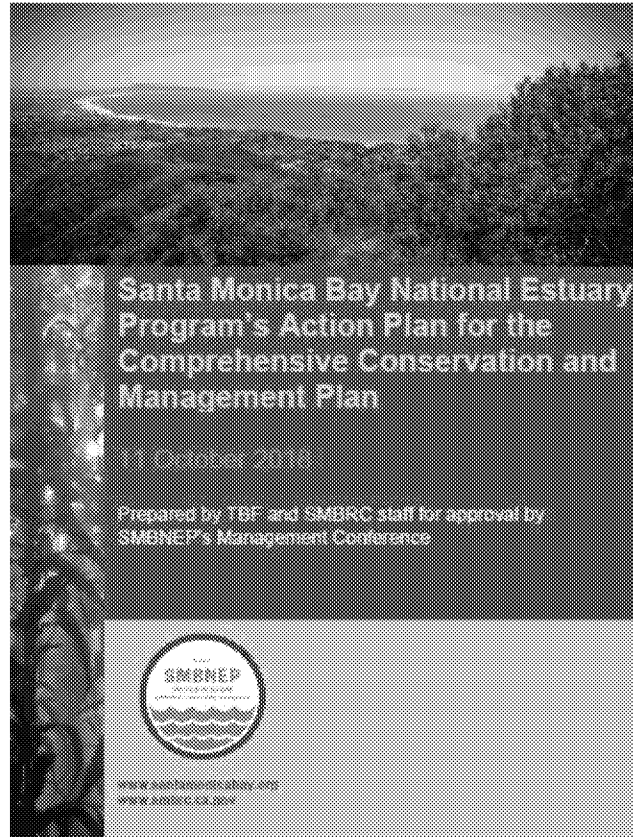
- Intro to SMBNEP 15-min
  - SMBNEP Management Committee/Governing Board- current priorities
  - Governance and structure
  - CCMP: Action Plan & Governance and Structure
- Program Evaluation (PE) overview 25-min
  - a.k.a. PE guidance 'cliff notes' & site visit overview
- Upcoming 15-min
  - FOIA
  - Governance discussions and workshops
- Additional follow-up? 5-min

# Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program



- Formed in 1988
- First CCMP approved in 1995
- Management: Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission-The Bay Foundation
  - The Bay Foundation: NEP Director +~13 staff
  - SWRCB: ~2 staff
- Governing Board: decision-making body
  - comprised of locals, state, feds, dischargers, nonprofits. EPA is a nonvoting member.

# Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan



First CCMP approved in 1995- primarily focused on water quality, stormwater, POTWs, nonpoint sources, human health

## **2018 CCMP Goals**

Protect, enhance, and improve ecosystems of Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds

Improve water availability

Enhance socioeconomic benefits to the public

Enhance public engagement and education

Mitigate impacts and increase resiliency to climate change

Improve monitoring and ability to assess effectiveness of management actions

## **Upcoming Approvals**

**-NEP governing board: December 2019**

**-EPA R9 and HQ: concurrence role**

# National Estuary Program Program Evaluation Overview

# PE Purpose

- Assess how well NEPs are using funds to implement CCMPs
- Allows EPA to keep funding NEPs
- Every 5 years
- PE Findings
  - Pass/Fail
  - NEP will receive a final PE letter with a determination of “*pass*,” “*conditional pass*,” or “*fail*”

# Program Evaluation Team

HQ+R9+Ex-officio NEP Director

- Vince Bacalan
- Erica Yelensky
- Jennifer Heckert- Charlotte Harbor--> Coastal and Heartland NEP (Florida)

# PE Timeline

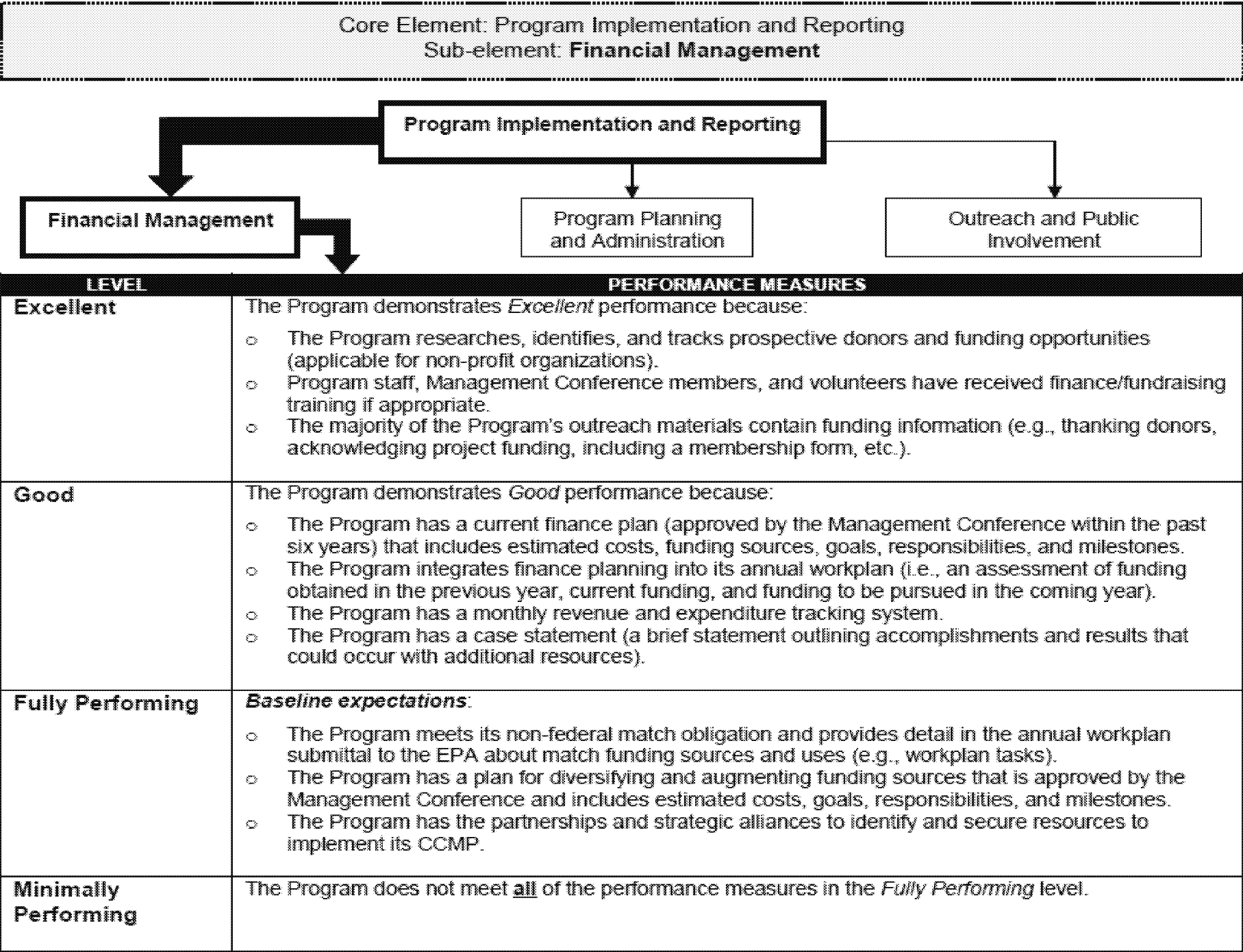
- NEP Self – Assessment: NEP submits PE Package (March 15)- NEP self-assessment
- ❖ June 17-20: Site Visit
- Post-site visit: PE team holds conference call with the NEP Director to allow the NEP Director the opportunity to address concerns raised during the on-site visit.
- End of July 2019: PE team prepares final draft PE letter and provides the NEP Director an opportunity to review before it is finalized.
- PE Team finalizes the formal findings letter for signing by the NEP HQ Branch Chief (Bob Benson).
- Late August 2019: HQ NEP Branch Chief reviews and signs the PE letter.
- If NEP Director requests, the PE team can discuss the final PE letter with the Management Conference in order to discuss and/or clarify findings.

# NEP's Self-Assessment- Part 1

- Financial Management
- Program Planning and Administration
- Outreach and Public Involvement
- Reporting
- Assessment and Monitoring
- Research (optional)



# NEP's Self-Assessment - Part 1 Standardized Performance Measures Responses



# NEP's Self-Assessment- Part 2

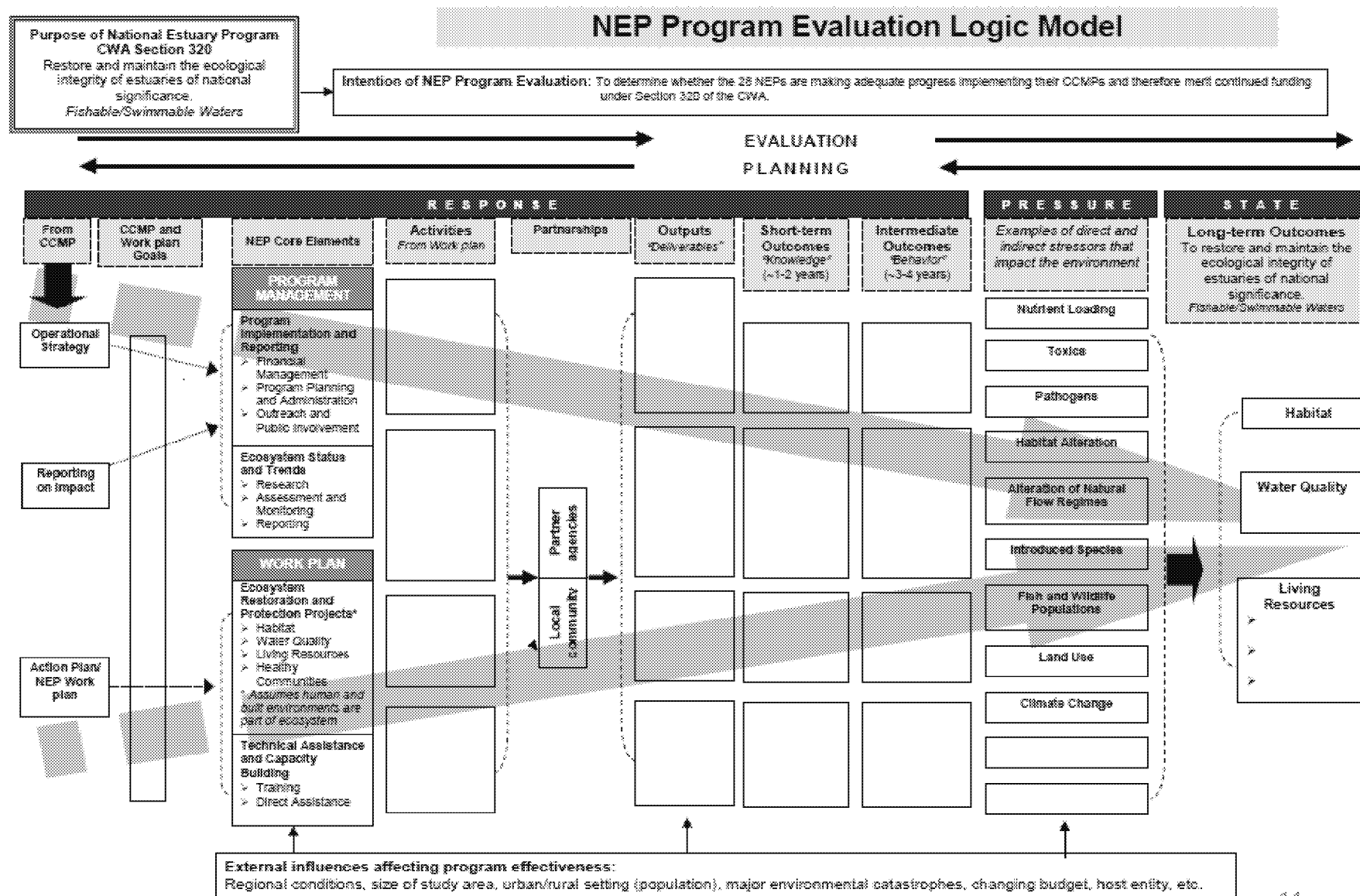
## Workplan Narrative Summary

**Key** NEP work plan goals and activities, stages of progress toward achieving the NEP's environmental milestones and targets, and role of key stakeholders supporting the activities. The following elements describe **generally** what is in an NEP work plan to achieve CCMP goals:

- 1) Habitat
- 2) Water Quality
- 3) Living Resources
- 4) Healthy Communities
- 5) Trainings
- 6) Direct Assistance

# NEP's Self-Assessment- Part 2

## Workplan Narrative Summary



# Site Visit Purpose

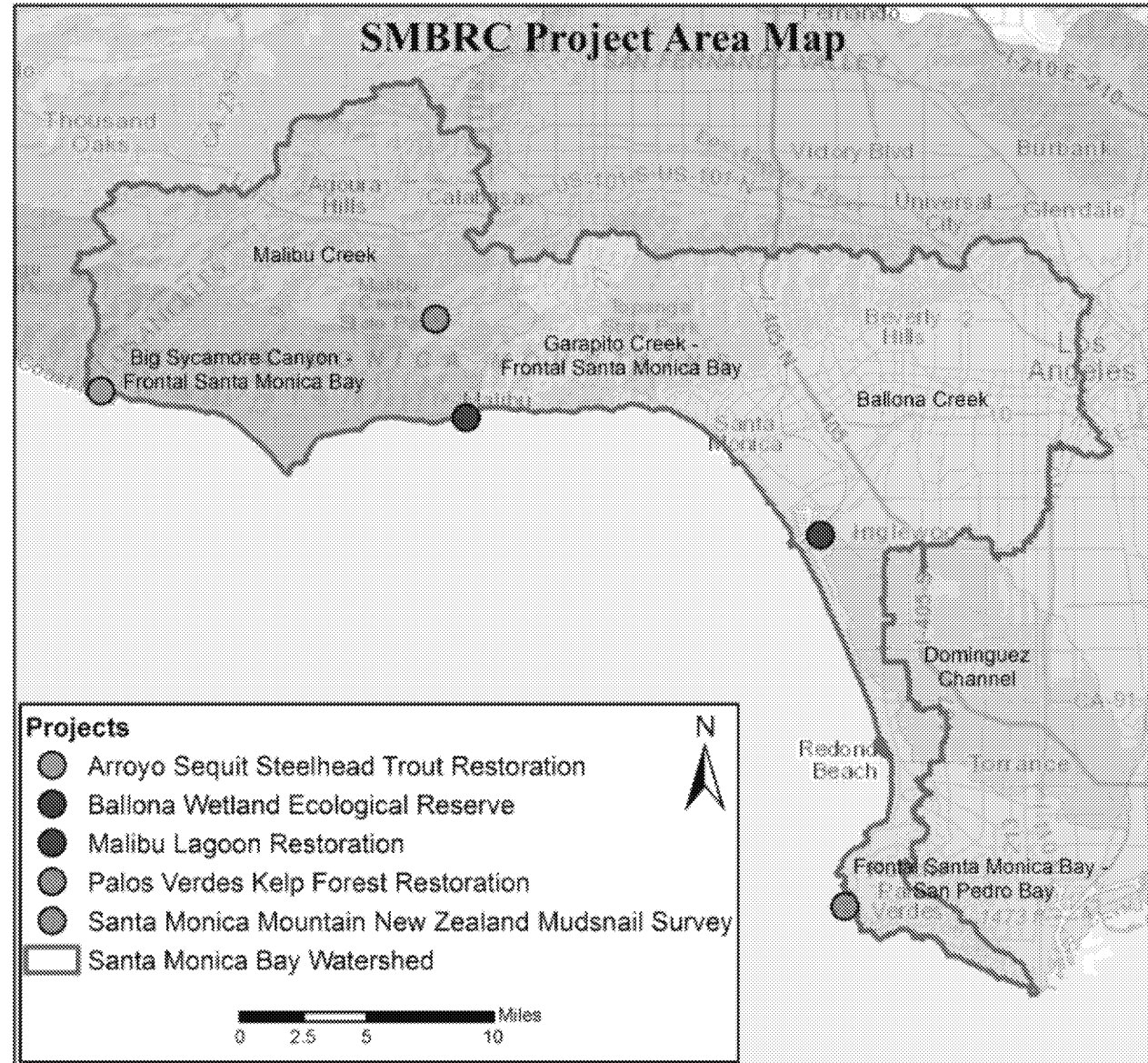
## **The NEP should use the PE on-site visit to:**

- demonstrate successes and accomplishments, especially those that are innovative and have technical transfer possibilities;
- expand upon work plan progress summarized in the work plan narrative summary; and
- demonstrate how external factors may be influencing progress toward environmental milestones and targets.

## **The PE team members should use the on-site visit to:**

- meet and build relationships among EPA and NEP partners;
- discuss any questions or issues with submission of PE materials;
- discuss preliminary findings (strengths and challenges); and
- identify and discuss potential program recommendations with NEP, if feasible.

# PE Site Visit



# Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program- Kelp Forest Restoration

Commercial fishermen and TBF scientists restore and monitor rocky reefs in the Santa Monica Bay, respectively, as they are transformed from urchin barrens to kelp forests.

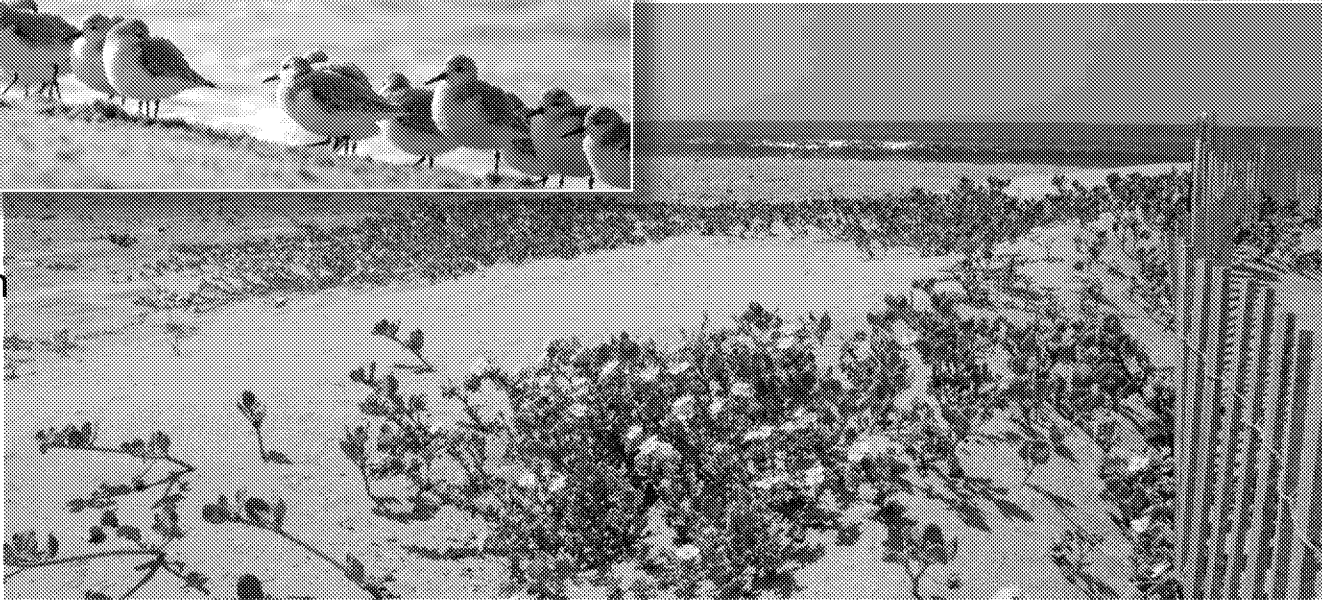


- In 2018, an additional 3.9 acres of kelp forest have been restored for a total of 46.9 acres since the project began in 2013
- Pre- and post-restoration monitoring continues across restoration sites

# Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program Coastal Resilience



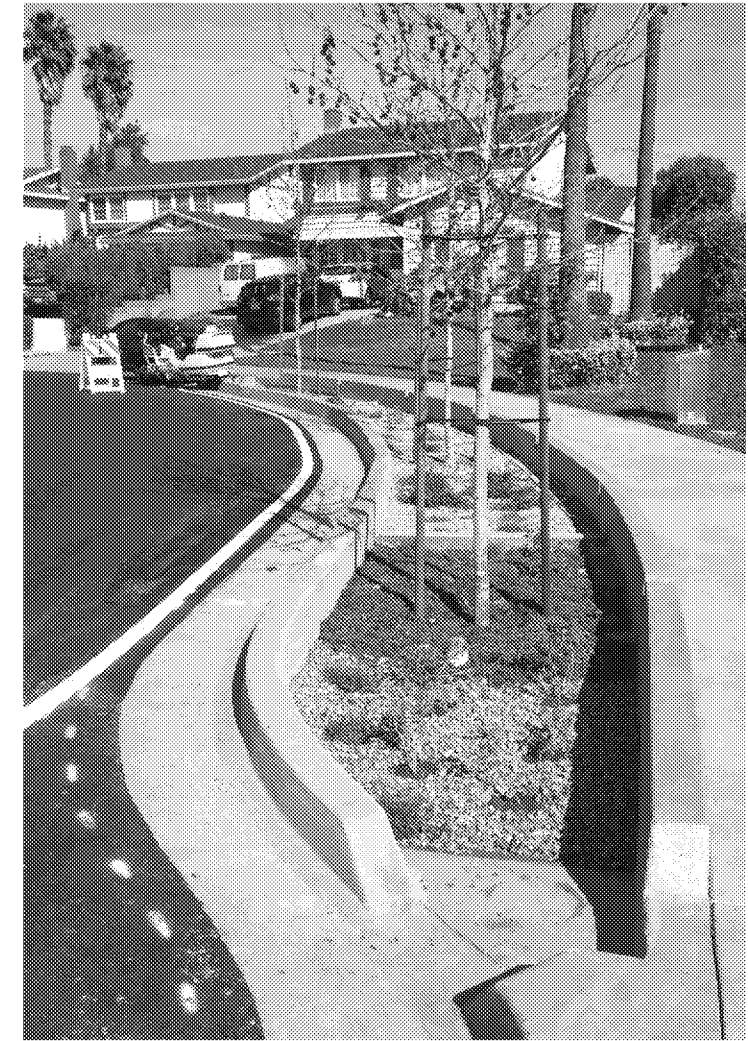
Santa Monica Beach  
Restoration Pilot  
Project



Restoring beach, dune, and nearshore eelgrass habitats in the NEP study area to improve coastal resilience.



# Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program Green Infrastructure



- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's Milton Green Street project installed 14 Vegetated Stormwater Curb Extensions adjacent to Ballona Creek to capture and treat runoff (completed in 2018)



# Governing Board meeting(June 20, 2019)

- a) Consideration of Approval of April 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- b) **Presentation by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) performance evaluation team on the initial findings of the performance evaluation of the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program**
- c) Update on State Assembly Bill 1511 (Bloom): Coastal resources: Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
- d) Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission/State Water Resources Control Board **staff update on proposed process** for updating the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Memorandum of Understanding
- e) Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission/State Water Resources Control Board **Scoping Workshop** for the Proposed Potential Amendment to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Memorandum of Understanding.